

Comparative Passage 1

1. This is a dual main point question. **The correct answer is B.** Both passages agree that the earth’s climate is indeed getting warmer, but it is clear that the two authors differ in their views on the issue. Passage A concentrates on the extent to which the phenomenon can be attributed to human activity, whereas passage B focuses on natural climate variability.

Response (A) is incorrect because passage B does not address the issue of fossil fuels.

Response (C) is incorrect because neither passage discusses steps that should be taken to reduce global warming.

Response (D) is incorrect because passage B makes no mention of carbon dioxide or any human activities that increase carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

Response (E) is incorrect because passage A does not mention variations in the sun’s radiation and the earth’s orbit as possible causes of global warming.

2. This is a dual search question. The correct response is (A). Lines 42–48, passage B explicitly cites the possibility that the Antarctic ice sheet will grow as a result of warmer sea temperatures brought about by global warming. On the other hand, passage A does not mention any possibility that the Antarctic ice sheet might grow.

Response (B) is incorrect because passage B mentions *increased* snowfall as a possible consequence of global warming.

Response (C) is incorrect because passage B mentions rising sea levels as a

possible consequence of global warming.

Response (D) is incorrect because, while passage A mentions extended heat waves as a consequence of global warming, passage B does not mention heat waves in any connection.

Response (E) is incorrect because passage A discusses major flooding as a consequence of global warming in the first two paragraphs.

3. This is a response question, it ask about points on which the authors disagree. The correct response is (D). While the author of passage A holds that human activity is substantially responsible for global warming, the author of passage B holds that natural events may exert far more influence on the earth’s climate.

Response (A) is incorrect because it is not clear that the authors would disagree over this issue.

Response (B) is incorrect because both authors would agree that natural events can cause changes in global climate conditions. The concluding sentence of passage A is “that global warming can no longer be attributed solely to natural climate variability” —indirectly acknowledging that natural events do play a role in changing in the earth’s climate.

Response (C) is incorrect because the passages provide no evidence for concluding that the authors would disagree over the effect of warmer air temperatures on oceanic water temperatures. Too specific.

Response (E) is incorrect because the passages do not provide any specific indications regarding either author’s views on the *extent* to which global

temperatures have risen in recent decades.

4. This is a dual detail question. The correct response is (A), “the breaking off of part of the Larsen ice shelf in 1995.” The author of passage A cites this event (lines 1–2), and it is evidence of melting of the polar ice caps.

Response (B) is incorrect because, while the higher temperatures in the Antarctic region since the 1940s might well be the cause of any melting of the polar ice that has taken place, it cannot be used as evidence of that melting.

Responses (C), (D), and (E) are incorrect because the phenomena they refer to belong alongside the melting of the polar ice caps as possible consequences of global warming. None of these phenomena can be taken as evidence of the melting of the polar ice caps.

5. This is a response question. The correct response is (D). The author of passage B argues that warmer water temperatures might result in more evaporation, which in turn could produce more snowfall on the polar ice caps, causing the ice caps to grow (lines 44–48). Thus the author of passage B would be likely to regard author A’s predictions of dire consequences resulting from rising sea levels as relying on an inadequate understanding of the hydrological cycle.

Response (A) is incorrect because the author of passage B agrees that there is a causal relationship between the warming of the earth and rising sea levels (lines 38–39).

Response (B) is incorrect because the author of passage B is aware that at least one factor other than the melting of the ice caps—namely the expansion of water

as it warms—can cause sea levels to rise (lines 38–39).

Response (C) is incorrect. The author of passage B does dispute the conclusions drawn by some people, such as the author of passage A, regarding the causes and consequences of the warming trend.

Response (E) is incorrect because the author of passage B says nothing about any assumptions concerning future temperature increases underlying the dire predictions cited in passage A. There is therefore no evidence that the author of passage B is likely to view such assumptions as grounds for criticism.

6. This is a relationship question. The correct response is C. It mirrors the dispute between A and B over whether humans or natural phenomenon are the primary cause of global warming. Like passage A and passage B, these two documents both agree that a trend—loss of species—is occurring. And also like passage A and passage B, these two documents differ in their assignment of responsibility for the trend.

Response (B) is incorrect because while, at a general level, both documents engage the same topic—the effect of pollution on the ozone layer—they do not appear to agree that there is a phenomenon that needs to be explained, much less offer competing or conflicting explanations.

Response (D) is incorrect because the second document describes what appears to be a potential way to address the problem identified in the first document.

Response (E) is incorrect because the two documents discuss related problems, rather than the same problem.

7. This is a relationship question. The correct response is (C). Unlike the author of passage A, the author of passage B argues that some of the extreme conclusions based on the phenomena surrounding global warming lack foundation.

Response (A) is incorrect because the author of passage A does in fact rely on hard evidence in drawing his or her conclusions.

Comparative Passage 2

8. This is a dual purpose of the passage question. **The correct answer is C.** While passage A suggests language and music evolved together, yet music conveyed no evolutionary advantage, Passage B argues that music evolved as an adaptive response to the need for a stronger bond between mother and child.

Response A and E are out of scope. Response B is only discussed in passage B. And response D is only discussed in passage A.

9. This is a dual search question. **The correct answer is B.** Passage B argues music helps mothers and infants to bond emotionally. Passage A suggests music, like language, uses intonation and rhythm to communicate emotion.

All of the other responses are clearly incorrect because they are either out of scope, or mentioned only in one of the two paragraphs.

10. This is an inference question. **The correct answer is D.** While passage A suggests language and music evolved together, yet music conveyed no

Response (B) is incorrect because both passages rely on recent evidence.

Response (D) is incorrect because passage B does not demonstrate that any of the assertions made in passage A are false, merely potentially unfounded.

Response (E) is incorrect because, while both passages refer to some of the same phenomena—such as melting of polar ice—each also cites evidence that the other passage does not mention.

evolutionary advantage, Passage B argues that music evolved as an adaptive response to the need for a stronger bond between mother and child.

Responses A is out of scope. Responses C and E are referred to only in passage B, and there is no evidence the author in Passage B would disagree with these statements. Response B is mentioned only in passage A and author B indicates no feelings on the subject.

11. This is a dual inference question. **The correct answer is C.** Both authors mention increased brain size as a correlative to evolution in musical capacity, seeming to suggest that they believe musical capacity is at least linked to an increased brain size. All of the other responses are clearly incorrect. Response A and B are not addressed at all by author A and we have no clue as to whether author A would agree or disagree. Response D is not mentioned at all by author B. And response E is not mentioned by either author.

12. This is a principle question. **The correct answer is E.** Both passages use the behaviour of modern-day humans as

evidence of the evolutionary origins of human musical ability. Thus, clearly both passages support the principle espoused in answer E. Response A is way out of scope of the passages. Response B ignores passage A which argued there was no evolutionary advantage to musical capacity. Response C and D are not mentioned in

passage B.

13. This is a relationship question. **The correct answer is A.** Both passages are discussing the same topic, but use different evidence (neurological v. behavioural) to draw different conclusions.